GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4017
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2008
DISTANCE EDUCATION FOR PROFESSIONAL COURSES
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to allow all educational institutions to offer popular courses like MBA and IT through distance and mixed education mode;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the three regulatory bodies i.e.UGC, AICTE and Distance Education Council (DEC) have jointly considered and decided to allow all educational institutions to offer distance education courses;

(d) if so, the courses likely to be provided under this scheme;

(e) the detailed guidelines issued by the Government to educational institutions in this regard; and

(f) the steps taken/being taken by Government to ensure that the quality of these courses is not degraded as a result thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SMT. D.PURANDESWARI)

(a) : No Sir.

(b) : Does not arise.

(c) and (d): The Programme/Courses approved by the respective statutory bodies of the Universities/Institutions and approved by the respective regulatory bodies forTechnical/ Professional programmer c a n b e offered through distance mode provided these programmes are also recognized by the Distance Education Council. In order to cut short the delay in seeking multiple clearances for starting a Distance Education Programmed, the three regulatory bodies viz. UGC, AICTE and DEC have decided to provide a single window for considering proposals through a joint committee mechanism.

(e) and (f): The Government discharges its responsibilities of determining the standards i n distance education through IGNOU's authority, DEC, which has communicated to Universities/Institutions to adhere to the Norms and Guidelines specified in the Handbook for recognition of DEC from time to time and trying to ensure quality of programmers through distance mode by providing guidelines and organizing workshops and seminars.

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D.O.No.9-15/2008-DL dated 16th April , 2008

Dear Shri Laxman,
We have received Notice for Lok Sabha Question Diary No.4490 regarding DISTANCE EDUCATION by Shri Asaduddin Owaisi for reply on 22.04.2008. The Question seeks the following information:

(c) whether the Government considering to allow all educational institutions to offer their popular courses like MBA and IIT through distance and mixed education mode;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the three regulatory bodies i.e. UGC, AICTE and Distance Education Council (DEC) have jointly considered and decided to allow all educational institutions to offer distance education courses;

(d) if so, the courses likely to be provided under this scheme;

(e) the detailed guidelines issued by Government to educational institutions in this regard; and

(f) the steps taken/being taken by Government to ensure that quality of these courses is not degraded?

I shall be grateful if you could kindly arrange to furnish the draft reply to the question along with the material for Note for Supplementary at the earliest.
With kind regards,
Yours sincerely,

(Dr. D.K. Paliwal)
Fax 29532312 Shri K. Laxman, Registrar, Indira Gandhi National Open University, Maidan Garhi, New Delhi

Copy to: Vice-Chancellor, Indira Gandhi National Open University